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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : DATE ALLOWED: OCTOBER 2, 2006
SHINICHIRO KOTO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: WONG, ALLEN C.
SERIAL NO: 10/657,276 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 9, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2621
FOR: VIDEO ENCODING METHOD AND :
VIDEO DECODING METHOD

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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SIR:

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, appearing on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37) mailed on October 2, 2006, is mistaken in referring to the subject matter of allowed independent claim 19 and its dependent claim 20 as including subject matter found in allowed independent claims 1, 2, 16 and 17 and the claims that depend thereon.

In this regard, independent claim 19 and its dependent claim 20 recite a video decoding method rather than the video encoding method of independent claims 1, 2, 16 and 17 and the claims that depend thereon.

Accordingly, the examiner's reasons for allowance apply only to independent claims 1, 2, 16 and 17 and the claims that depend thereon and do not apply to independent claim 19 and its dependent claim 20.

Respectfully submitted,

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